

Date: 11 January 2022

Our Reference: FOIA-2021-158

RE: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write in response to your Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('FoIA 2000') request, dated 29/12/2021, in which you requested:

"Do Police receive specific training on the Nolan Principles (The Seven Principles of Public Life)?

If so, how much time is utilized for this training?

Do Police receive specific training on ethics? If so, how much time is utilized for this training?

How often is it recommended for Police to receive top-up training regarding Nolan principles, and also ethics?

How much training do Police receive regarding the difference between LEGAL (legislation, codes, regulations, etc), and law (often referred to as natural law; common law; customary law; God's law)?

Are Police trained to know the difference between legalese and ordinary common-usage language?

Are Police permitted to give legal advice?

Are Police permitted to quote / state legislation and Acts in a general sense to public when attempting to enforce, or must the Police know and state the specifics of the legislation / Acts when attempting to enforce?

What information must the Police give when asked by public to identify themselves?"

Decision

When a request for information is made under FoIA 2000, a public authority has a general duty under section 1(1) of the Act to inform an applicant whether the requested information is held. There is then a general obligation to communicate that information to the applicant.

In line with section 1(1) of the FoIA, I can confirm the College **holds no recorded information** relevant to your request. However, please find a contextual explanation below for some of your questions.

For ease, we have responded to each part of your request separately:

**Do Police receive specific training on the Nolan Principles (The Seven Principles of Public Life)?
If so, how much time is utilized for this training?**

The Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) initial entry routes into policing place fundamental emphasis on adopting an ethical approach to policing, based on the Code of Ethics and subsequently, the nine Policing Principles (which include the Nolan Principles). The College also provides modules on the Code of Ethics, covering the Policing Principles, which police forces may require their staff to undertake.

No information is held on 'how much time is utilized for this training'; this is embedded throughout the National Policing Curriculum (NPC) and the College do not determine the specific delivery and assessment methodologies. This is a matter for the force and their procured education provider (in collaboration) and, therefore, is largely dependent on the local programme design.

Do Police receive specific training on ethics? If so, how much time is utilized for this training?

Yes, as outlined above. No information is held on 'how much time is utilized for this training'.

How often is it recommended for Police to receive top-up training regarding Nolan principles, and also ethics?

This is a matter for forces as to how much training they provide to their staff on ethics. The only stipulated training that the College is aware of is under the PEQF curriculum. The College is not aware of any recommendation concerning how often staff receive training on ethics, although it should be recognised that ethics form part of a variety of training delivered across policing.

How much training do Police receive regarding the difference between LEGAL (legislation, codes, regulations, etc), and law (often referred to as natural law; common law; customary law; God's law)?

The College set standards, in this case the NPC. Within which, there are numerous references to 'legislation', 'codes', 'regulations' and 'law'. However, the College do not determine the specific delivery

and assessment methodologies; this is a matter for the force and their procured education provider (in collaboration), and is largely dependent on local and operational need.

Are Police trained to know the difference between legalese and ordinary common-usage language?

There is significant learning across the learning programmes in relation to 'communication skills'; this includes communication skills for a range of audiences. No specific information is held in relation to knowing the difference between legalese and ordinary common-usage language.

Are Police permitted to give legal advice?

No information held.

Are Police permitted to quote / state legislation and Acts in a general sense to public when attempting to enforce, or must the Police know and state the specifics of the legislation / Acts when attempting to enforce?

No information held.

What information must the Police give when asked by public to identify themselves?

No information held.

Your rights can be found at the end of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

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Your right of review

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you have a right to request an internal review if you are dissatisfied with our handling of your request. Review requests should be made in writing (by email or post) within 40 working days from the date of our original response. We will aim to respond to your review request within 20 working days.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

If, after lodging a review request you are still dissatisfied, you may raise the matter with the ICO. For further information you can visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>. Alternatively, you can contact them by phone or write to them at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113